

# J&K BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

## MODEL QUESTION PAPER

CLASS: XII

SUB: ENGLISH LITERATURE

MAX MARKS: 80

### SECTION A: READING

12 marks

6x1=6

1 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

'Now, what I want is, Facts. Teach these boys and girls nothing but Facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else. You can only form the minds of reasoning animals upon Facts: nothing else will ever be of any service to them. This is the principle on which I bring up my own children, and this is the principle on which I bring up these children. Stick to Facts, sir!'

The scene was a plain, bare, monotonous vault of a school-room, and the speaker's square forefinger emphasized his observations by underscoring every sentence with a line on the schoolmaster's sleeve. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's square wall of a forehead, which had his eyebrows for its base, while his eyes found commodious cellarage in two dark caves, overshadowed by the wall. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's mouth, which was wide, thin, and hard set. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's voice, which was inflexible, dry, and dictatorial. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's hair, which bristled on the skirts of his bald head, a plantation of firs to keep the wind from its shining surface, all covered with knobs, like the crust of a plum pie, as if the head had scarcely warehouse-room for the hard facts stored inside. The speaker's obstinate carriage, square coat, square legs, square shoulders,—nay, his very neckcloth, trained to take him by the throat with an unaccommodating grasp, like a stubborn fact, as it was,—all helped the emphasis.

'In this life, we want nothing but Facts, sir; nothing but Facts!'

The speaker, and the schoolmaster, and the third grown person present, all backed a little, and swept with their eyes the inclined plane of little vessels then and there arranged in order, ready to have imperial gallons of facts poured into them until they were full to the brim.

THOMAS GRADGRIND, sir. A man of realities. A man of facts and calculations. A man who proceeds upon the principle that two and two are four, and nothing over, and who is not to be talked into allowing for anything over. Thomas Gradgrind, sir—peremptorily Thomas—Thomas Gradgrind. With a rule and a pair of scales, and the multiplication table always in his pocket, sir, ready to weigh and measure any parcel of human nature, and tell you exactly what it comes to. It is a mere question of figures, a case of simple arithmetic. You might hope to get some other nonsensical belief into the head of George Gradgrind, or Augustus Gradgrind, or John Gradgrind, or Joseph Gradgrind (all supposititious, non-existent persons), but into the head of Thomas Gradgrind—no, sir!

In such terms Mr. Gradgrind always mentally introduced himself, whether to

his private circle of acquaintance, or to the public in general. In such a case, without doubt, substituting the words 'boys and girls,' for 'sir,' Thomas Gradgrind now presented Thomas Gradgrind to the little pitchers before him, who were to be filled so full of facts.

Indeed, as he eagerly sparkled at them from the cellarage before mentioned, he seemed a kind of cannon loaded to the muzzle with facts, and prepared to blow them clean out of the regions of childhood at one discharge. He seemed a galvanizing apparatus, too, charged with a grim mechanical substitute for the tender young imaginations that were to be stormed away.

- a. Mr Gradgrind has been described as scary-looking. (true/false)
- b. Identify the literary device in 'The emphasis was helped by the speaker's square wall of a forehead, which had his eyebrows for its base, while his eyes found commodious cellarage in two dark caves, overshadowed by the wall. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's mouth, which was wide, thin, and hard set. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's voice, which was inflexible, dry, and dictatorial. The emphasis was helped by the speaker's hair, which bristled on the skirts of his bald head, a plantation of firs to keep the wind from its shining surface, all covered with knobs, like the crust of a plum pie, as if the head had scarcely warehouse-room for the hard facts stored inside.'
- c. The ~~The~~ tone of the passage is
  - i. derisive
  - ii. assertive
  - iii. Playful
  - iv. Persuasive
- d. 'Parcel of human nature' refers to the students. (true/false)
- e. The simile 'like a stubborn fact' is meant to be
  - i. ironical
  - ii. Comical
  - iii. An understatement
  - iv. Objective
- f. Which phrase in the passage compare Mr Gradgrind to an automaton?

2 Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow (50-60 words each). 2x3=6

I met a traveller from an antique land,  
Who said—"Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
Stand in the desert. . . . Near them, on the sand,  
Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,  
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,  
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,  
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;  
And on the pedestal, these words appear:  
My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings;  
Look on my Works, ye Mighty, and despair!  
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare  
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

- a. Explain:  
Two vast and trunkless legs of stone

Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown,  
 And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,  
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
 Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things  
 The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;  
 b. What message does the poem convey?

**SECTION B: CREATIVE WRITING SKILLS**

10 marks

- 3 Write an essay on one of the following (300-400 words)
- Pros and cons of online education
  - Art is the mirror of society

1x5=5

- 4 Pen down a write up on one of the following (300-400 words)
- My favourite teacher
  - The jolliest person I have ever met

1x5=5

**SECTION C: LITERATURE**

58 marks

- 5 Read the following poem and answer the questions that follow in 20-30 words each.

3x2=6

*Or listen to the clocktowers  
 Of any old well-managed city*

*beating their gongs round the clock, each slightly  
 off the others' time, deeper or lighter*

*in its bronze, beating out a different  
 sequence each half-hour, out of the accidents*

*of alloy, a maker's shaking hand  
 in Switzerland, or the mutual distances*

*commemorating a donor's whim,  
 the perennial feuds and seasonal alliance*

*of Hindu, Christian, and Muslim -  
 cut off sometimes by a change of wind,*

*a change of mind, or a siren  
 between the pieces of a backstreet quarrel.*

*One day you look up and see one of them  
 eyeless, silent, a zigzag sky showing*

*through the knocked-out clockwork, after a riot,  
 a peace-march time bomb, or a precise act*

*Of nature in a night of lightnings.*

- What effect does the opening line of the poem create?
- Why is the act of nature described as 'precise'?
- Explain briefly: 'beating their gongs round the clock, each slightly/ off the others' time, deeper or lighter'.

*A*  
*9/7*

*A*  
*9/7*

6	<p>Recall the following lines from the prescribed poems and identify the poetic device from the context in any four of the following.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'That love hath not attained the highest degree'</li> <li>'Then Cruelty knits a snare./And spreads its baits with care'</li> <li>'It was but now I saw her as the PAndava's mother'</li> <li>'Who shall turn to thee selflessly/Who shall have that breadth of heart?'</li> <li>'But in the dead of the night the ocean broke its bounds'</li> <li>'but lit up now/with the oil lamp/I saw broken in the attic'</li> </ol>	4x1=4
7	<p>Answer one of the following questions in 100-120 words.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comment on the metre of <i>The Divine Image</i>.</li> <li>Paradox forms the core of <i>A Will in the Name of a Neew Man</i>. Discuss.</li> <li>Why has the device of the rhetorical question been frequently employed in the Shrukhs?</li> </ol>	1x5=5
8	<p>Answer the following questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>The Mahabharata</i> is about seven times as long as the <i>Illiad</i>. (True/False)</li> <li>Who wrote: 'If you had your choice, would you work for eight hours a day and retire with a full pension at forty-five, or would you rather work four hours a day and keep on working until you are seventy?'</li> <li>According to Bernard Shaw a free person is one who can do what he likes, when he likes, and where he likes, or do nothing at all if he prefers it. (true/false)</li> <li>Bergman's father used to perform             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>funerals, marriages and baptisms</li> <li>Skits</li> <li>Musicals</li> <li>surgeries</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	4x1=4
9	<p>Read the following passage and answer each of the questions that follow in 20-30 words.</p> <p>Fortune is like the market; where many times if you can stay a little, the price will fall. Again, it is sometimes like Sibylla's offer; which at first, offereth the commodity at full, then consumeth part and part, and still holdeth up the price. For occasion (as it is in the common verse) turneth a bald noddle, after she hath presented her locks in front, and no hold taken; or at least turneth the handle of the bottle, first to be received, and after the belly, which is hard to clasp. There is surely no greater wisdom, than well to time the beginnings, and onsets, of things. Dangers are no more light, if they once seem light; and more dangers have deceived men, than forced them. Nay, it were better, to meet some dangers half way, though they come nothing near, than to keep too long a watch upon their approaches; for if a man watch too long, it is odds he will fall asleep. On the other side, to be deceived with too long shadows (as some have been, when the moon was low, and shone on their enemies' back), and so to shoot off before the time; or to teach dangers to come on, by over early buckling towards them; is another extreme. The ripeness, or unripeness, of the occasion (as we said) must ever be well weighed; and generally it is good, to commit the beginnings of all great actions to Argus, with his hundred eyes, and the ends to Briareus, with his hundred hands; first to watch, and then to speed. For the helmet of Pluto, which maketh the politic man go invisible, is secrecy in the counsel, and celerity in the execution. For when things are once come to the execution. there is no secrecy, comparable to celerity; like the motion of a bullet in the air, which flieth so swift, as it outruns the eye.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cite an example of aphorism from the passage.</li> </ol>	3x2=6

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	<p>b. What is Sybilla's offer?</p> <p>c. How, according to the writer, should dangers be tackled?</p>	
10	<p>Answer one of the following questions in 100-120 words.</p> <p>a. Why, according to Krishnamurthi, are the concepts of freedom and discipline contradictory to one another?</p> <p>b. What is Sen's interpretation of the positions taken by Krishna and Arjuna in the debate between them?</p> <p>c. What, according to Asimov, are the pitfalls that the writer of science fiction mystery must against?</p>	1x5=5
11	<p>Answer the following questions.</p> <p>a. In <i>Broken Images</i> the name of Manjula's husband is _____</p> <p>b. Manjula admits that she could not complete her novel without her husband's support. (true/false)</p> <p>c. The play ends with the image i. smiling ii. Weeping iii. Chuckling iv. frowning</p>	3x1=3
12	<p>Answer one of the following questions in 100-120 words each.</p> <p>a. Comment on the significance of the word 'broken' in the title <i>Broken Images</i>.</p> <p>b. <i>Broken Images</i> accurately brings out the theme of politics of language. Discuss.</p>	1x5=5
13	<p>Answer the following questions.</p> <p>a. The title <i>To Kill a Mocking Bird</i> is borrowed from i. Shakespeare ii. Milton iii. <i>The Bible</i> iv. Francis Bacon</p> <p>b. <i>To Kill a Mocking Bird</i> is set in Maycomb. (true/false)</p> <p>c. The narrator of the novel is _____</p> <p>d. Who among the following is forced to leave the courtroom after speaking? i. Link Deas ii. Dill iii. Scout iv. Calpurnia</p> <p>e. What tool did Bob Ewell use to try to kill the Finches?</p>	5X1=5
14	<p>Answer two of the following questions in 100-120 words each.</p> <p>a. The law is represented as unjust in the novel. Comment.</p> <p>b. Describe the roll Boo plays in the novel.</p> <p>c. Comment on the aspect of camaraderie in Maycomb society as described in the novel.</p> <p>d. What is your impression of the relationship between Scout, Jem and Dill?</p>	2x4=8
15	<p>Answer one of the following questions in 300-350 words.</p> <p>a. Despite being openly critiqued, Atticus is respected throughout Maycomb. Discuss.</p> <p>b. Besides her father's upbringing it is the happenings around her that bring Scout mentally of age. Comment.</p>	1x7=7

 